reby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient lage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, and the date shown below Va. 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERA 233 (10)

2/6/04

In re Patent Application of:

Franke, et al.

Application No.: 09/937,722

Filed: March 28, 2002

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: D. J. Davis

MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS For:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND FEE

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450 JAN 2 8 2004

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Responsive to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2003, please grant a three-month Dear Sir: petition for extension of time. A check for \$950.00 is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-CERA 233-US.

Dated: 1/15/04

Respectfully submitted,

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